



**MAYOR
JERRY SANDERS
Science and Technology Commission's
Public WiFi Working Group
MEETING MINUTES**

The Public WiFi Working Group (PWWG) held a meeting on Monday, September 18, 2006, hosted by the City Planning and Community Investment Department located at 600 B Street, San Diego, CA 92101.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Kristopher Lichter called the meeting to order at 8:45 A.M.
Subcommittee Members Present: Martha Dennis, Kristopher Lichter, and Tyler Orion. City Staff: Marc Jaffe, Consultant, Information, Technology and Communication Department ; Steve Lastomirsky, Deputy City Attorney; Karen Lynch-Ashcraft, Development Services Department; Toni Dillon, Economic Development Division; Tina Hines, Economic Development Division, Scott Kessler Economic Development Division. Members of Public: Drew MacCullough, Socal Freenet, Marc Palumbo, Socal Freenet; Bill Griswold, UCSD.
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.
- III. **APPROVAL MINUTES FOR:** August 7, 2006
(MOTION/SECOND/Orion/Dennis/UNANIMOUS)
- IV. **PUBLIC WIFI AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OF OTHER CITIES:** Agenda item IV. was tabled to a later time in the meeting. The PWWG proceeded to discuss Agenda item V which is detailed below.
- A. Group brainstorming session to determine the contents of the slide presentation: The Public WiFi Working Group (PWWG) discussed the need to develop vision statement and a business case for the implementation of public wireless access. In the interim, the group will continue to look into the benefits and deployment considerations related to public WiFi to be incorporated into the business case.
- B. Discussion of community uses for wireless technology: During their discussion the PWWG agreed that the following customers could be served by Public WiFi: 1) city government; 2) underserved communities; 3) students; 4) visitors; 5) local workforce; 6) small and medium sized businesses. The group compiled a list of challenges, solutions, and requirements regarding the provision of public wireless access noted in the table below.

Audience	Pain /Challenges	Solution	Requirements
underserved	lack of access, computer illiteracy	wireless network provides 1/2 access, encourages integration by interested parties	free/low cost wireless access
students	wireless availability, study capabilities, family/school dialogue	J.I.T access/ pervasive access	student oriented rate model
visitors	San Diego's image/productivity	fulfillment of "Wireless Mecca" image/ directions, services, purchasing	rate model (full price/pro-rata), sign on ease
workforce & small businesses	improve productivity, secured access, J.I.T.	(solution is encompassed in information previously listed)	Public /private subsidy model?
Disabled (accessibility)	need based restrictions	remove geographic limitations/ complete coverage	accessibility tools

- V. **UPDATE FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES:**

- A. Office of the Chief Information Officer: Matt McGarvey was unable to attend this meeting. Marc Jaffe, a consultant with the IT&C Department gave a brief update. Jaffe mentioned that IT&C has been approached by several wireless providers seeking to expand wireless network capabilities within the City of San Diego boundaries. One service provider that has approached the City is Earthlink. Earthlink has a history of city-wide network deployment.

One of the business models presented, includes the usage of City owned light poles and facilities for deployment. There are Council Policies that outline the process to lease and place equipment on city owned property. Council Policy 700-10 Disposition of City-Owned Real Property details the process to lease City owned property. Council Policy 600-43, City of San Diego Wireless Communications Facilities details the permit process for wireless equipment deployment. Furthermore applicants seeking such permits must comply with Land Development Code section 141.0420. Jaffe stated that the City would require any contract with a wireless service provider to be “nonexclusive.” In the 1990s, the city entered into this type of contract with Ricochet. Once executed Ricochet deployed its equipment on City light poles.

If deployed, the pricing of services would be determined by the provider and the market. The service providers have expressed interest in providing lower rates for low income residents; however, these providers do not want the responsibility of determining eligibility for low income based services. It was discussed that existing nonprofit experts may be able to fill this void.

This update resulted in a discussion how to develop a vision statement and a business case for the implementation of city-wide wireless access. In addition, it clarified the need to identify what customers could be served this access. This discussion was continued under Agenda item IV.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- A. Schedule a date for the December meeting

- VII. ADJOURNMENT: It was moved that the Public WiFi Working Group meeting should adjourn at 11:15 A.M. (MOTION/SECOND/Lichter/Orion/UNANIMOUS)

Draft Prepared: 12/7/06 th

Final Approved: 12/13/06

Motion by: (MOTION/Orion/Dennis/UNANIMOUS)

Revisions to Draft: *Double Strikethrough and Italic*

Revisions Prepared: N/A

Board Vote: Unanimous

For more information please contact Tina Hines @ 619.533.5463
or THines@sanidiego.gov

www.sandiego.gov/science-tech